



Attorney's Docket No. 208-6152

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Schwindeman et al

Serial No.: 09/625,787

Filed: July 26, 2000

For: *CHAIN EXTENDED FUNCTIONALIZED INITIATORS AND METHODS OF PREPARING AND USING THE SAME*

Examiner: J. Mullis

Group Art Unit: 1711

Confirmation No.: 7855

Date: August 14, 2002

RESPONSE A

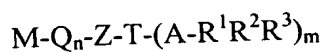
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This Response is responsive to the Office Action (the "Action") mailed on March 22, 2002. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The marked-up version of the changes is captioned "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made."

AMENDMENT

1. (amended) A polymerization initiator comprising a compound of the formula



wherein:

M is lithium;

Q is a saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbyl group derived by incorporation of at least one conjugated diene hydrocarbons or mixtures thereof;

Z is a straight chain hydrocarbon connecting group which contains 3-25 carbon atoms;

T is oxygen;

(A-R<sup>1</sup>R<sup>2</sup>R<sup>3</sup>)<sub>m</sub> is a protecting group in which A is carbon and R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, and R<sup>3</sup> are alkyl;

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